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September 13, 2017

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

RE: Docket No. RM 2017-12

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of Meals on Wheels and More, Inc. (dba Meals on Wheels ~~Central~~ Central Texas), our donors and, most importantly, those we serve (more than 5,000 low income, homebound older adults). We rely on the U.S. mail to raise funds and communicate with our supporters and clients. Without the mail, our fundraising would suffer severely and, as a consequence, so would the people we serve.

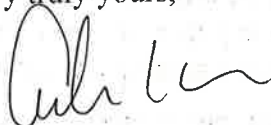
We simply do not understand why suddenly there is a need to increase nonprofit marketing mail rates for the nominal benefit of commercial marketing mail. This would seem to fly in the face of the rationale of the law granting nonprofits a discounted rate.

As a practical matter, injecting unanticipated increases such as those proposed here by USPS will mean ~~that~~ our fundraising budget will not be able to keep pace with the increase in postage costs. The inevitable result will be a reduction in our use of the mail, a reduction in our revenues, and, in turn, a reduction in our ability to serve our beneficiaries.

If our postage rates were to increase, say, 5%, and produce a corresponding 5% loss of revenue, the shortfall would dramatically cut the number of nutritious lunches we serve every year by 38,000 meals.

Please do not change the current system for calculating nonprofit rates that were implemented by the Postal Service ten years ago. We see no pressing need for a change, especially not one that will do harm to all nonprofits using the mail.

Very truly yours,


Adam I. Hauser
President & CEO
Meals on Wheels Central Texas